

information of a header section of said packet and (ii) said payload error portion is configured to store error check information of a payload area of said packet.

6. (AMENDED) The packet according to claim 5, wherein said one or more downstream nodes is further configured to perform a discard of said [faulty upstream node] packet upon detecting an error.

10. (AMENDED) The packet according to claim 1 [8], further comprising a data payload.

13. (AMENDED) The packet according to claim 1, further comprising an identity portion configured to identify a destination node.

15. (AMENDED) The packet according to claim 14 [17], wherein said label portion comprises a MPLS label portion.

[Please add the following new claims:]

18. (NEW) The packet according to claim 1, wherein said network comprises a fiber optic network.

19. (NEW) The packet according to claim 1, wherein (i) said header error portion is configured to store error check information of a header section of said packet and (ii) said payload error portion is configured to store error check information of a payload area of said packet.

20. (NEW) The packet according to claim 5, wherein said one or more downstream nodes is further configured to perform a discard of said packet upon detecting an error.

REMARKS

The Examiner is respectfully invited to call the Applicants' representative should it be deemed beneficial to further advance prosecution of the application.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The Examiner's attention is directed to the Information Disclosure Statement filed July 24, 2000.